THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, December 13, 1802.

Particulars reſpecting the Dominions of the Emperor of Germany.

IT is not the buſineſs of a review of this kind to give an account of the laws, hiſtory, extent, population, power, or revenues of nations, with which the reader is ſuppoſed to be already generally acquainted; but of the changes which have recently taken place, or are actually paſſing, in their internal ſituation, or in their political connections with other ſtates.

In the internal ſituation of the ſubjects of the houſe of Auſtria no change of any importance has, for a long time, taken place. In reſpect to the adminiſtration of juſtice, the levying of taxes, military conſcription, and all objects of domeſtic police, the hereditary dominions, Auſtria, Moravia, Bohemia, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, &c. are under ſimilar regulations, which ſeemed to be almoſt regarded as immutable. Captains of diſtricts perform the ſame kind of functions as the intendants of provinces formerly did in France. For form's ſake, ſome of theſe ſtates ſtill retain a ſhadow of repreſentation; but their repreſentatives have neither power nor influence. Hungary alone has preſerved its ancient political exiſtence, There is no country in Europe, England excepted, where the balance of power is calculated with ſo much juſtice, if the expreſſion may be uſed in ſpeaking of a nation where the nobles and the prieſts are every thing, and the people, without liberty and without property, are mere appendages to the ſoil. What, then, is in reality the boaſted freedom of Hungary? It is wholly confined to the nobility and the clergy, who are indeed ſufficiently independent of the emperor, while the bulk of the people are even more enſlaved than in other parts of the Auſtrian dominions.

Conſidering the long duration of this ſtate of things, the progreſſion of knowledge, the ſpirit of the age, and the palpable utility to thoſe who govern, as well as to thoſe who obey, of obviating by reforms the neceſſity of revolutions, we ſhould have expected to find the Auſtrian cabinet induſtriouſly occupied in correcting ancient abuſes, and encouraging modern improvements. But how very different is their actual conduct! Not only no improvements of conſequence are attempted, but ſome pernicious inſtitutions (aboliſhed by a former adminiſtration) are reviving. The convents diſſolved by Joſeph II. are ordered to be re-eſtabliſhed. The monks are permitted to re-enter their cloiſters, to negociate the reſtoration of the property of their monaſteries from thoſe who may have purchaſed it, and to receive novices. Pilgrimages are again to be allowed; new privileges and immunities are conferred on the clergy, and every encouragement given to young men to enter into holy orders.

Thus, while monachiſm is baniſhed from the reſt of Europe, it finds protection in the Auſtrian dominions. This fatal policy, together with a prohibition of all books, even the periodical publications of other countries, enſure the continuance of ignorance, indolence, and miſery, in that part of Germany, until a more enlightened adminiſtration, or ſome convulſion, operated by the extremity of the evil, ſhall purify the political atmoſphere.

It is no more than juſtice here to remark ſome traits of apparent liberality by which this otherwiſe extravagant policy is variegated. An order has been iſſued to the monaſteries of Auſtria to receive all the monks from the ſuppreſſed convents of Bavaria, who are natives of the imperial dominions. That individuals ſhould not ſuffer from the ſuppreſſion of public inſtitutions, is a principle which we admit ſhould ever be held ſacred. The emperor is ſaid alſo to have reſiſted an application made by the biſhops of Hungary to ſuppreſs the privileges granted by Joſeph II. to the proteſtants of that country, juſtifying his refuſal by the direction of the public ſpirit. Whatever may be the motives of theſe meaſures, their propriety cannot well be called in queſtion; and we have only to regret, that one or two traits of liberal policy ſhould be ſo inadequate a counterpoiſe to the effects of a general ſyſtem of degradation. If Joſeph was accuſed of having been rather too much under the influence of abſtraction, the preſent emperor, we apprehend with more reaſon, may be accuſed of being too much under the influence of prieſtcraft.

The effect of this repreſſive and barbarous ſyſtem of government is, that at Vienna, the capital of the Auſtrian dominions, life is a monotonous ſtate, ſcarcely more exalted in its nature than that of vegetation. There are no amuſing anecdotes of the court or city. There is an emperor, an empreſs, and archdukes, but

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no court: there are great riches, and great lords, but no pleaſant anecdotes: there is ſhew without taſte: people ruin themſelves without knowing for what: they vegetate without enjoyment: they do to-day as they did yeſterday, and as they will do to-morrow.

With reſpect to politics, they are wholly out of the queſtion: on that ſubject, you can only read the official gazette in German, or the French journal of Frankfort, which contains the drieſt details, or mutilates the moſt intereſting articles of the journals of other countries.

In the arts, ſciences, and literature, there are very few conſpicuous characters, if we except Muller, imperial librarian, by birth a Swiſs; Jacquin, the botaniſt, author of the "Hortus Botanicus Viennenſis;" ſome compoſers, at the head of whom is the celebrated Haydn; and Quarin and Frank, phyſicians, &c. &c. There is no literary academy; but there is an academy of painting, in which may be diſtinguiſhed Figuer, Lempi, Duvivior, The celebrated Caſanova has retired.

The theatres are almoſt the only rational and conſtant ſource of amuſement; but their dramatic works, for want of the chaſtening hand of criticiſm, are too often extravagant or devoid of taſte. They are indeed ſeldom conſidered in a literary point of view, and the machinery only is particularly attended to. The principal dramatic writers of Germany inhabit the north: Ziegler, an actor on the imperial theatre, ſometimes gets his pieces repreſented; but he imitates and ſurpaſſes the faults of Kotzebue, Iffland, and Schiller, without poſſeſſing their excellence. Ballets and operas are, comparatively ſpeaking, not badly executed; and ſome of their dancers, particularly Caſſentine and Delcaro, are not without their pretenſions.

The character of the inhabitants is generally amiable: they are cold, but polite; they are hoſpitable to ſtrangers, without eſteeming them; it is faſhionable with them to keep open houſe, not from the love of company and of taſte, but from the neceſſity of aſſociating: they are what is called a good ſort of people in their families, treating all perſons well, without much preference or marked diſtinction: they like to dine, rather to dine well; for their taſte is not more conſpicuous phyſically than morally: although ſober, their meetings and walks have always ſome repaſt in view.

At Vienna there are, properly ſpeaking, but two claſſes, viz. the firſt nobility, i. e. thoſe who go to court, as capable of being chamberlains, or members of chapters; and the ſecond nobility, i. e. counſellors of tribunals, chiefs of the offices of government, bankers, monied men, Jews, who have become rich by commerce or by uſury, agents, &c. Theſe two claſſes are abſolutely diſtinct, and do not aſſociate: all the reſt is people.

Clerks of public offices are in immenſe numbers, and do very little work. This multitude of machines, under various denominations, multiply difficulties and confuſe buſineſs: nothing is finiſhed: you know not where to apply: the departments encroach upon each other: their attributes are not preciſely defined; and this uncertainty, which pervades all the branches of the adminiſtration, renders it impoſſible to form a clear idea of the organiſation of the government, or to render a correct account of it. That, under ſuch circumſtances, the ſtate-machinery ſhould move ſlowly, cannot be very ſurpriſing, and perhaps, as matters are, is not much to be regretted.

The conſequences of the power acquired by the military during the late war may give a different direction to deſpotiſm: and it is always a kind of conſolation, that no poſſible change can be for the worſe. We have thought proper thus to enlarge on the principles and conduct of the Auſtrian government, becauſe they do not ſeem to be ſo generally known as thoſe of other countries of equal importance and extent, It does not appear, that the new order of things, ariſing from the ſyſtem of indemnities, will effect much alteration in the dominions of the emperor; the territory he has loſt by the war will probably be replaced, if not from the ſtates of Germany, at leaſt, from thoſe of the Ottoman Porte.

Paris in 1779, as deſcribed by the late Dr. Moore.

A Candid Engliſhman, of whatever rank he may be, muſt ſee with indignation, that every thing here is arranged for the accommodation of the rich and the powerful, and that little or no regard is paid to the comfort of citizens of an inferior ſtation. This appears in a thouſand inſtances, and ſtrikes the eyes immediately on entering Paris.

The regular and effectual manner in which the city of London is lighted at night, and the raiſed pavements on the ſide of every ſtreet for the ſecurity and conveniency of foot-paſſengers, ſeem to indicate that the body of the people, as well as the rich and great, are counted of ſome importance in the eye of government; whereas Paris is poorly and partially lighted; and except on the Pont Neuf and Pont Royal, and the keys between them, is not provided with foot-ways for the accommodation and ſafety of thoſe who cannot afford carriages. They muſt therefore grope their way as they beſt can, and ſkulk behind pillars, or run into ſhops, to avoid being cruſhed by the coaches, which are driven as near the wall as they pleaſe, diſperſing the people on foot at their approach, like chaff before the wind.

Monarchy is raiſed in this country ſo high, that it quite loſes ſight of the bulk of the nation, and pays attention only to a few,

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who, being in exalted ſituations, come within the court's ſphere of viſion.

There is no queſtion that government leaves the middle and inferior ranks of life in ſome degrees unprotected, and expoſed to the unjuſtice and inſolence of the great, who are conſidered as ſomewhat above the law, though greatly below the monarch. But the poliſhed mildneſs of French manners, the gay and ſociable turn of the nation, the affable and eaſy conduct of maſters to their ſervants, ſupply the deficiencies, and correct the errors of government, and render the condition of the common people in France, but particularly at Paris, better than in ſeveral other countries of Europe.

That city which owes its moſt admired ornaments, ſome peculiar rights, and a great part of its wealth to the favour of the monarchs, and which will loſe more than any part of France by the continuation of a republican government, has ſhewn a greater violence againſt royalty than the generality of the provinces, and its populace has become ſanguinary and cruel.—This phenomenon may be eaſily accounted for. It is well known that profligacy and wickedneſs of every ſort are puſhed to greater lengths in capitals, where vaſt numbers of mankind are aſſembled. Paris has been long thought a place of greater profligacy than any other capital in Europe. At London, the induſtry of the city ſerves as ſome check to the diſſipation of Weſtminſter. The other capital cities in Europe are ſmaller and poorer. Paris, although not ſo large nor ſo rich as London, was more luxurious, becauſe on account of the univerſality of the French language, the general ſituation of French manners, and other reaſons, it was not only the capital of France, but in ſome degree of all Europe, and was much more frequented by the rich and diſſipated from every country than London ever was. At Paris, pleaſure was not only to be had on eaſier terms, but was alſo ſerved up more to the taſte of foreigners in general than at London. There is a great reſort of induſtrious ſtrangers to the latter, becauſe of a more extenſive field for induſtry; but undoubtedly a greater number of gameſters, ſharpers, and adventurers of every denomination, from the different countries of Europe, were to be found at Paris, than in any other town in the world. Such men became the ready agents of thoſe who had the moſt criminal views in the progreſs of the revolution, and puſhed the Pariſians to the greateſt exceſſes.

They were intoxicated with rage and fury, while a little before they were intoxicated with love for their monarch. It ſeems to be in their nature to be always intoxicated with ſomething or other.

EXTRAOR-

EXTRAORDINARY CHARACTER.

A Short time ſince died, at Hornchurch, in Eſſex, Edward Nokes, aged 56, by trade a tinker, which he followed zealouſly till about ſix weeks before his death. His apartments pourtrayed ſymptoms of the moſt abject poverty, though at his death he was found to be poſſeſſed of property to the amount of between five and ſix thouſand pounds. He had a wife and ſeveral children, whom he brought up in the moſt parſimonious manner, often feeding them on grains and the offals of meat, which he purchaſed at reduced prices. He was no leſs remarkable in his perſon and dreſs; for in order to ſave the expence of ſhaving, he would encourage the dirt to gather on his face, to hide in ſome meaſure his defect. He never ſuffered his ſhirt to be waſhed in water; but after wearing it till it became intolerably black, he uſed to waſh it in urine to ſave the expence of ſoap. His coat, which time had transformed into a jacket, would have puzzled the wiſeſt philoſopher to make out its original colour, ſo covered was it with ſhreds and patches of different colours, and thoſe ſo diverſified, as to reſemble the trophies of the different nations of Europe, and ſeemed to vie with Joſeph's " coat of many colours."

The intereſt of his money, together with all he could heap up from his penurious mode of living, he uſed to depoſit in a bag, which bag was covered up in a tin pot, and then conveyed to a brick kitchen; one of the bricks was taken up, and a hole made juſt large enough to hold the pot; the brick was then carefully marked, and a tally kept behind the door of the ſum depoſited. One day his wife diſcovered this hoard, and reſolving to profit by the opportunity, took from the pot, one out of ſixteen guineas, that was then placed there. Her huſband ſoon diſcovered the trick, for when he came to count his money, and finding it not agree with the tally behind the door, which his wife did not know of, he taxed her with the theft, and to the day of his death, even on his death-bed, he never ſpoke to her without adding the epithet *thief* to every expreſſion.

In his younger days he uſed, at the death of any of his children, to have a little deal box made to put them in, and without undergoing the ſolemn requiſites of a regular funeral, he would take them upon his ſhoulder to the place appropriated for their reception; where, once interred, he ſeemingly coincided with the old adage, " out of ſight, out of mind; " and went home as unconcerned as if nothing had happened.

A ſhort time before his death, which he evidently haſtened by the daily uſe of near a quart of ſpirits, he gave ſtrict charge that his coffin ſhould not have a nail in it, which was actually the caſe, the lid being faſtened with hinges made of cord; there was no plate on the coffin, but barely the initials E. N. cut out on the

lid. His ſhroud was made of a pound of wool; the coffin was covered with a ſheet inſtead of a pall, and was carried by ſix men, to each of whom he left half-a-crown: and at his particular deſire, not one who followed him to the grave wore mourning; but on the contrary each of the mourners ſeemed to try whoſe dreſs ſhould be the moſt ſtriking, the undertaker even being habited in a blue coat and ſcarlet waiſtcoat. He died without a will, and his fortune was equally divided among his wife and family.

Sketch of the Life of Madame Bonaparte.

[From the Monthly Viſitor.]

THIS lady was firſt married to Monſieur Beauhairnais, by whom ſhe had two children, a ſon, and a daughter: they are now living, and ſcarcely of age. The ſon is a ſuperior officer on the ſtaff, and has diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the army: he is of ſmall ſtature, but full of ſpirit. Bonaparte, upon his return from the battle of Marengo, informed his lady with peculiar emphaſis, that *her* ſon was well, and had acquitted himſelf with uncommon courage and ability!—The daughter is a fine young woman, and ſhe was lately married to Joſeph Bonaparte, brother to the conſul—a perſon well known as ſuſtaining diſtinguiſhed offices under the French government. At what time Madame Bonaparte became widow we cannot tell, but we have been aſſured that her huſband fell a victim to the revolution. It is not indeed in our power to determine the preciſe manner after which he periſhed, though no doubt can be entertained that his blood was ſpilt on the altar of democratic tyranny. The charms and accompliſhments of this amiable woman ſoon procured her a ſecond huſband, who was no other than the preſent firſt conſul of France. They were united together whilſt he was an officer in the French army; of courſe ſhe muſt have felt a proportionate pleaſure in the ſubſequent diſtinctions by which her partner has been characteriſed; at the ſame time, what anxieties muſt have agitated her boſom—how muſt her affectionate ſoul have followed him amidſt the dangers to which he was every moment expoſed! It is eaſier to be conceived than deſcribed.

Her *illuſtrious ſpouſe*, however, has now reached the higheſt honours that the people of France can beſtow; of theſe ſhe muſt partake with peculiar cheerfulneſs. From the deſerts of Egypt he has returned in ſafety: it is therefore her preſent province to ſooth the anxieties and mitigate the cares which unavoidably attend his exalted ſtation. The gratifications of an

inordinate

inordinate ambition are not to be put in the balance along with the real enjoyments of domeſtic felicity.

GENERAL RETROSPECT.

For NOVEMBER, 1802.

RUSSIA.

IN this country there does not exiſt the ſame avidity to ſeize on public ſtations which prevails in ſome other political ſtates. It has become a notorious grievance, that the nobles and citizens have not deigned to interfere in the election of civil and judicial officers, and that in conſequence the internal policy and the adminiſtration of public juſtice has been aſſigned to perſons unfit to diſcharge theſe important functions. To prevent the continuance of this national diſhonour, the emperor has exerciſed his paternal authority, and has iſſued his imperial ukaſe to animate the higher orders of ſociety with that patriotic ſpirit which will diſpoſe them to diſcharge actively and faithfully their public duties.

The change of adminiſtration has produced no alteration in the foreign councils of the ſtate; preciſely the ſame irrefragable union appears to ſubſiſt between the conſular, Pruſſian, and czarine cabinets.

GERMANY.

Every ſucceeding month affords a new inſtance of the humiliation of the titular chief of the German empire. Rudolph of Hapſburgh, the founder of the houſe of Auſtria, was raiſed to the imperial authority, becauſe his territories and influence were ſo contemptible as to excite no jealouſy in his co-eſtates, whoſe princes were diſpoſed to protect the forms of a conſtitution, the energies of which they had deſtroyed. The ſame policy is purſuing under the auſpices of the courts of Paris, Peterſburgh, and Berlin, and to it Francis has been reluctantly conſtrained to ſubmit: in the mean time the viſit of the Archduke Conſtantine of Ruſſia to the capital of Germany, is ſome indication of the friendly diſpoſitions of Alexander. However we may lament the declining influence of the Auſtrian emperor, we ſee with pleaſure that the important ſubject of the indemnities has not revived the flames of war in Europe.

The diſturbances of the country of the Griſons have become of ſerious magnitude; perſons in diplomatic ſituations have aſſiſted the cauſe of the inſurgents, and by their influence have impeded the return of ſubordination.

A commiſſion is appointed for the expreſs purpoſe of putting in a train of adjuſtment the enormous debts incurred during

the late war, in order that the department of finance may not be obſtructed by the examination of the pretenſions of theſe numerous claims.

The retrograde movement of Auſtria in ſcience is, perhaps, leſs evidently ſhewn by her external acts, than by her interior regulations. It ſeems that either literature is confined to the monkiſh eſtabliſhments, or that the refractory ſpirit of the ſecular orders renders them unfit for ſome of the moſt weighty functions connected with the education of youth. The chair of philoſophy in all the univerſities of the Hungarian ſtates, is ordered to be occupied alone in future by eccleſiaſtics.

HELVETIA.

The formidable appearance of the French force, and the deciſive language employed by that government, occaſioned the precipitate diſſolution of the civil and military authorities of the cantons. The inſurgents being completely diſappointed in their hopes of the oſtenſible interference of England and Auſtria, have reſigned themſelves to their fate, and the hardy inhabitants of theſe mountains, whoſe independence has ſo long been ſecured by their native rocks, and native courage, have been compelled to ſend deputies to Paris to receive the mandates of the conſular ſovereign.

ITALY.

The duchy of Parma, abounding in cattle, corn, wine, and oil, and celebrated for the longevity of its inhabitants, has ſunk within the vortex of French power, and is now occupied by the troops of that nation.

An armed flotilla which has ſailed from Genoa, is appointed to protect the Ligurian trade againſt the hoſtilities of the ſavages on the ſouthern ſhores of the Mediterranean. The doge, who was nominated by Bonaparte, has given an early proof of his gratitude to his patron. Under the ſanction of the ſenate, ſtatues are to be erected to Columbus, and Napoleone: to the firſt, as the diſcoverer of America, to the laſt, as the reſtorer of Europe.

TURKEY.

Troubles have ariſen in Bulgaria and Viddin; Sophia, Nicopoli, and Siliſtria, are likely to exhibit the ſcene of a new war.

The grand vizier has returned from Egypt, and after having been guilty of the moſt extravagant violations of public right in the province of the Nile, he is directing his attention to protect public right, by regulating the interior police of the capital of the empire.

If this contradiction in the diſcharge of the official functions be a ſubject of regret, it is by no means a matter of ſurpriſe: it is common equally to the beſt and to the worſt governments. While the patriots of the imperial councils are the ſacred guardians of liberty in the ſeat of empire, the groſſeſt infringements of the natural and unalienable rights of man, in the remote provinces, are exerciſed without remorſe; as if the honour and dignity of the one depended on the diſgrace and humiliation of the other.

FRANCE.

The firſt inſtance which occurred poſterior to the cruſades, when the nations of Europe experienced a community of intereſt, was in the league of Cambray. At that time the ſecond Julius occupied the papal chair, and his object was to humble the republic of Venice. The laſt inſtance was the alliance which was terminated by the treaty of Amiens, the deſign of which was to humble the republic of France. In both caſes it was the policy of theſe republics to divide their enemies, and in their endeavours they were equally ſucceſsful. Since the former treaty nearly three centuries have elapſed, and through the whole of this protracted period, during the reign of more than thirty pontiffs, it has been the avowed maxim of the courts of the weſtern governments, to maintain that equipoize which was eſtabliſhed among them in the days of Maximilian. The coloſſal power of France, ſince the diſſolution of the late alliance has deſtroyed that happy equilibrium, and no queſtion is now conſidered of any comparative importance in the affairs of Europe, which does not affect the oſcillation of this great political balance. It is from this conſideration that miniſters have interpoſed with ſo much ſpirit to ſecure the independence of Malta, and with the ſame view, the awful authority of Britain has been employed to protect the liberty of the Helvetic government. In the former caſe, it ſeems the interference has not been uſeleſs; in the latter, it appears to have been wholly ineffectual. Theſe are the only general ſubjects which have lately agitated the cabinets of the powers of the firſt order: it is true, a ſterile rock is guaranteed to the celebates of St. John, but France is daily extending her empire from the ſhores of the Adriatic to the German ocean. The ceſſion of Parma to the French republic, according to the terms of the convention with Spain in the commencement of 1802, would ſufficiently explain the early views of aggrandizement in that government, if any doubt could yet remain after the appointment of the conſul to the ſupremacy of the Alps, the ſeizure of Helvetia by her military forces, and the abſolute controul exerciſed over the Batavian ſtates. Whether peace under ſuch circumſtances be deſirable, and whether the horrors of war would not rather accelerate than prevent theſe alarming conſequences, are enquiries that deſerve the ſe-

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rious and patient inveſtigation of the Britiſh patriot: France has already exceeded the limits of ancient Gaul, and it is in vain to extenuate the grievance: the authority of the firſt conſul is as indiſputable in Holland, Switzerland, and Liguria, as in the Italian or French republic, of which he is the acknowledged Auguſtus.

The French papers have been lately filled with details of the progreſs of the firſt conſul in his viſit to the ſea-port towns. The fulſome addreſſes preſented to him on theſe occaſions, remind us of an anecdote of the honeſt Richard Cromwell.—Many years after his reſignation of the protectorſhip, he was viſited in his retirement and obſcurity by an old friend, who, obſerving a very large cheſt in the corner of a lumber-room, was deſirous of knowing its contents—" That cheſt (replied Richard) contains the lives and fortunes of all the good people of Great Britain.

There is one anecdote, which, as reflecting honour on the chief conſul, it would be moſt uncandid to ſuppreſs. It is ſaid that Cambaceres, the biſhop of Caen, lately made application to the prefect of Rouen to ſhut up forcibly the proteſtant churches, which the prefect refuſed, till he could receive further orders from the government upon ſo delicate a ſubject. It is added, that when the affair was made known to Bonaparte, he ſent for the ſecond conſul, and told him, that, " if the biſhop had not been *his* brother, he would have ſtruck him off the liſt."

GREAT BRITAIN.

The treaty between Paris and Conſtantinople for the admiſſion of the French into the Black Sea, has not eſcaped the vigilance of the Britiſh miniſters. The ambaſſador at the Sublime Porte is now engaged in negociations to procure the admiſſion of the Engliſh merchant to the extenſive ſhores of the Euxine.

The public have been alarmed by a report of ſeditious or treaſonable practices in an obſcure ſituation in the pariſh of Lambeth, and previouſly to the meeting of parliament the privy council was actively engaged in examining the circumſtances of the affair. We hope, that if any evidence ſhould ariſe to juſtify the arraignment of the parties at the bar of their country they will be brought to trial as ſoon as poſſible, that the innocent may not be ſubjected to the miſeries of a dungeon, and that the guilty may, without delay, receive the puniſhment their crimes demand.

We conſider the act of habeas corpus, and the trial by jury, to be the moſt valuable rights that remain to the Engliſh people: we hope, therefore, that in a time of profound peace, adminiſtration will find no pretence from the miſconduct of a few diſaffected individuals for ſuſpending the former; for, whenever we diſcern that this deſtructive expedient is reſorted to, on fri-

volous grounds, we ſhall begin to apprehend the abrogation of the latter.

The new parliament has commenced its important duties, and a ſpeech from the throne, indicating the pacific intentions of his majeſty in the preſent ſituation of national concerns, has alleviated the fears of a large proportion of the friends of humanity, who conſider war as the greateſt public evil. Whatever may be the ſucceſsful career of France in her ambitious projects, as long as the Britiſh navy ſhall be triumphant on the ocean, the independence, commerce, opulence, and dignity of theſe iſlands, can receive no fatal wound from the attempts of foreign hoſtility.

INTERESTING TRIAL.

COURT of KING's BENCH, December 1.

A Cauſe was this day tried in the Court of King's Bench, in which the father of Alexander Brown, a deceaſed ſeaman, late belonging to La Pique, was plaintiff, and David Hart, ſlop-ſeller, of Goſport, was defendant. Mr. Gibbs, for the plaintiff, ſtated that his client claimed, as adminiſtrator, about 250l. due to his ſon for a prize captured by La Pique, which money Mr. Hart had received by a power of attorney: he had paid 28l. 16s. 6d. into court, and was to account for the remainder. Alexander Brown, after ſerving on board La Pique, went in La Tigre to Conſtantinople. The defendant was of the Jewiſh perſuaſion, and, like moſt other ſlop-ſellers, was an agent for ſeamen to receive their money by power of attorney, on the faith of which they ſometimes gave a little credit for ſlop. The prize was taken in 1796, but was not determined to be a prize till 1800, when Alexander Brown was on board La Tigre, and in the interval he had written to Hart to pay the money to his father, and Hart had written two letters to the old man, to ſay he had not received it; that he had advanced 6l. 9s. for the ſon, and had received only 30s. but as ſoon as any prize money was paid, he would ſend to him, &c. At length, in 1800, news came of the death of Alexander Brown, and Hart then wrote to the father that he feared it would turn out that nothing was due to him, and pathetically lamented the frauds to which the heirs of ſeamen were expoſed.—Hart ſet up a claim of having advanced to this ſeaman 170l. in a few days, and he would read the items, as it was a curious demand:

	£.		
October 2, 1798, caſh (at once) -	50	0	0
Silver watch - - -	6	6	0
Silver chain and key - -	0	16	0
Silver buckles - - -	2	2	0
7th, caſh - - - -	20	0	0

So

So that here were about 80l. in five days, and the account was made as it were by weeks.—Again,

From the 7th of October to the 14th, cash	£.20	0	0
Check shirts - - -	1	11	6
Linen ditto - - -	2	2	0
14th, cash - - - -	30	0	0

This, with the addition of 4l. lasted until the 22d, and then—

October 22, cash - - -	£.50	0	0

To this was added a modest charge by Mr. Hart, for his own commission of 5l. 3s. In a word, this defendant, after stating in a letter of his own hand-writing, that there was no money paid to this sailor but 7l. 9s. had received about 250l. as would appear by the evidence of his agent in town. Mr. Gibbs so clearly proved his statement, that Mr. Garrow gave up his cause, and a verdict of 224l. in addition to the payment into court, was given for the plaintiff.

PAMROSE; *or, the* PALACE *and the* COT.

[Translated from the French of Madame De Genlis.]

The most interesting part of this little novel is not a fiction; but, in all its particulars, an absolute fact. It was communicated to the author, by a person in every respect worthy of the highest credit—Mademoiselle Itzig, of Berlin—who was very well acquainted with a gentleman who had resided at the court of this benevolent princess, and had been an eye-witness of the noble action here related. This interesting princess is no more!

AT the close of a fine summer's day, a poor, distressed female peasant, overcome with fatigue, and bearing in her arms a little girl two months old, moved slowly along the bank of the Rhine. "Alas!" cried she, "I can see the turrets of the palace—O that I may be able to reach it! The princess is so good! and is, herself, a mother: like me, too, she suckles her infant!" Thus saying, the unfortunate woman endeavoured to walk faster; but a flint, that lay in her path, pierced her naked foot, and wounded it deeply: the pain it occasioned was so excruciating, that, not being able to continue her journey, she sat down on a large stone, at the foot of a tree—"O God!" she exclaimed, bursting into a flood of tears, "must I stop, when now the palace is in sight? and my child in vain seeks its nourishment; my milk is all gone! Here, on this stone, I must expire, though so near the palace!" Her sobs choaked her voice: and her infant sent forth its little piteous cries, as, with its parched lips, it sought the exhausted breast of its unhappy mother.

ther. " Ah! my poor innocent babe," cried the wretched woman; " ah! that my tears, and my heart's blood, could afford you food!—But, ſee! juſt Heaven, its dear eyes are cloſed; it cries no more! And muſt I twice ſuffer death? muſt I behold my child expire, before my heart breaks for ever? O God, it ſtirs not! It is dead, and I yet ſurvive!" At theſe words, ſhe threw her wild glance acroſs the rapid ſtream that flowed at her feet: a horrid thought filled her brain; deſpair gave her new ſtrength, her face flushed, and ſhe preſſed her expiring infant cloſe to her breaſt. At that very moment it ſtirred; and the miſerable mother ſhuddered, turned aſide her head, and found ſome relief in tears. Her eye again ſettled on the gilt turrets of the palace—" How happy," cried ſhe, " muſt thoſe great ones be; who, with their offſpring, poſſeſs all they can want or wiſh! But they muſt one time die, and the ſame God will judge us all; when, perhaps, the peaſant will appear before him with as much confidence as the wealthy man or the monarch!" Her languiſhing head now reclined againſt the tree: ſhe raiſed her eyes, in vacant gaze, towards Heaven; and, her ſufferings being for a while remitted, they became, like her thoughts, vague and wandering. Grief, acute as her's, finds no alleviation, but in the ſublime hope of futurity. Fortitude may enable the mind to ſupport its ſorrows; but pious reſignation can alone ſubdue them.

Death muſt ſoon have freed this innocent victim of misfortune from all her woes, when an elegant carriage drove ſwiftly paſt the ſpot: the Princeſs Amelia was in it, and was the firſt who, from the bank of the river, perceived the wretched peaſant. " Good God!" ſhe exclaimed, " yonder is a woman, and a mother too, fainting away! let us fly to her aſſiſtance." The poſtillion hearing theſe words, ſtopped his horſes; and the amiable, compaſſionate Amelia, darted out of the coach. An old lord, belonging to the court, ran after her, to conduct her: while a fat maid of honour called out, with all her might, to a Hungarian footman, to help her in getting out: and the pages, who were forward on horſeback, came back, full gallop, to the princeſs. In the mean while, the honourable attendant ſat forgotten in the coach, grumbling and impatient. The princeſs had, by this time, reached the place where the poor female laid; and perceiving, with joy, that ſhe again opened her eyes, offered her ſome gold pieces. " Alas!" cried the wretched mother, " gold is now of no uſe to me; it is milk I want, and milk I have none, to ſave my babe from death!"—" What!" cried Amelia, trembling, " Yes, my babe dies for want of nouriſhment!" replied the peaſant. No ſooner did Amelia hear this, than, penetrated with horror and compaſſion, ſhe caſt her eyes on the infant, which reſembled the one ſhe herſelf ſuckled: when the beauty of the child increaſed the pity which had already made

her heart bleed. " Does it ſtill live?" aſked ſhe, with emotion: ſaying which, ſhe took hold of the babe's hand; and, feeling its little fingers preſs her's—" No, my pretty innocent," ſhe cried, " thou muſt not die?" She then knelt down; and ſupporting its head with her arm, put it to her breaſt.

" Oh, Madam!" exclaimed the peaſant, claſping her hands, and lifting them up to Heaven—She could not proceed: the ſweet tears of gratitude would not be reſtrained; and burſt, in torrents, from her eyes. Thus prevented from expreſſing her feelings to her auguſt benefactreſs, ſhe could not thank her; but ſilently breathed out her prayers and her bleſſings.

In the mean time, the child applied itſelf with eagerneſs to the breaſt, and drew in the moſt plenteous draughts of the pure milk that reſtored it to life. Every perſon who witneſſed this intereſting ſcene, comtemplated it, in ſilence, with mingled emotion and ſurpriſe, and even with agitation, The fat dame of honour, however, muſt be excepted; who remained in the coach, fanning herſelf in lonely diſcontent, and a ſtranger to all that was going on: for the pages, the courtier, and the ſervants, all preſſing round their royal miſtreſs, ſcreened her from ſight.

Who can paint the rapturous feelings of the peaſant and the princeſs, when they ſaw the babe reviving, and ſhew ſigns of returning life; its little cheek once more tinged with the tender bloom of health! In ten minutes time, refreſhed and ſtrengthened, it quitted Amelia's boſom, looked up in her face, and ſmiled. The princeſs, bathed in tears, gave the infant a maternal kiſs; and, inſtantly riſing—" Let us," ſaid ſhe, " haſten to the palace, that we may procure this poor woman the ſuccour of which ſhe ſtands ſo much in need. Place her in the carriage." At theſe words, the footman, ſupporting the peaſant, followed the princeſs; who, carrying the child in her arms, got into the carriage, placing the woman by her ſide; to the utter aſtoniſhment of the maid of honour, who felt herſelf highly affronted, at being obliged to give up the back ſeat to a peaſant. The old courtier ſeated himſelf on the coachman's box; and they all ſet off.

The Baroneſs de Klakenberg—that was the name of this maid of honour—was a perſonage of the eighteenth century; ſo ſtrongly attached to all the etiquette of the court, that ſhe was of opinion " no circumſtance in life ought to induce any one to diſpenſe with its public obſervance:" and ſo univerſally perfect did ſhe conceive this rule of conduct to be; that ſhe deemed it, of itſelf, ſufficient to form the mind, the morals, and the ſentiments, of princes and nobles. An idea which certainly ſimplifies much the education of the individuals belonging to theſe two claſſes: but it is an idea not quite ſo new, as it is profound; for, it appears that there have been ſeveral preceptors, of both ſexes, who acted on it, long before the Baroneſs

de

de Klakenberg, notwithſtanding ſhe claimed the honour of it in the little court of ****.

Her aſtoniſhment was increaſed, when ſhe learned that the Princeſs Amelia had ſuckled this poor woman's child. "This is very ſingular, indeed!" was the only reflection which her barred heart made when ſhe heard it. They now arrived at the palace, where the countrywoman was lodged, provided with food, and laid in a good bed. A female ſervant, belonging to the palace, undertook to nurſe the little girl: and the princeſs, having thus fulfilled all the duties which humanity required, entered her own apartment, and gazed on her own child, then aſleep in the cradle, with additional delight. "I have juſt now preſerved the life of one of theſe little ones," ſaid ſhe; "and God will preſerve mine!" The child awoke out of its ſleep, crying; Amelia ſet it on her knees, and gave it the breaſt, "Ah, my child!" continued ſhe, "I have ſuffered a poor little unfortunate to ſhare your food; and it is with pleaſure that I regard this, as a preſage that you will do ſo, of your own accord, when you ſhall be old enough to comprehend the complaints of the indigent. As for me, I have only followed the dictates of that affection which nature has planted in the boſom of every mother. You it was, my dear boy! whom my imagination beheld, in that expiring infant: you it was, who pleaded ſtrongly in its behalf."

(To be continued.)

PORTRAIT *of* QUEEN CHRISTINA *of* SWEDEN.

WHITELOCKE has drawn, in his journal, an intereſting portrait of Queen Chriſtina, who afterwards abdicated the Swediſh crown. He deſcribes her as ſhe appeared at the firſt audience to which ſhe admitted him. "Her habit," ſays he, "was of plaine grey ſtuffe: her petticote reached to the ground: over that a jackett ſuch as men weare, of the ſame ſtuffe, reaching to her knees. On her left ſide, tyed with crimſon ribbon, ſhe wore the jewel of the order of Amaranta; her cuffs ruffled à la mode; no gorgett or band, but a blacke ſcarfe about her neck, tyed before, with a black ribbon, as ſoldiers and marriners ſometimes uſe to weare. Her hayre was breaded, and hung looſe: upon her head, ſhe wore a blacke velvet cappe, lined with fabies, and turned up, after the faſhion of the countrey, which ſhe uſed to putt off and on, as men do their hats. Her countenance was ſprightly, but ſomewhat pale. She had much of majeſty in her demeanor. And, though her perſon were of the ſmaller ſize; yett her mienne and carryage was very noble."

A RE-

A REFLECTION.

ERROR is the growth of every clime; and if ſuffered to expand in the mind of youth, it will overrun or deſtroy all the beſt properties of the heart.

Curious SPECIMEN *of* ORTHOGRAPHY.

TO the Capens of welliulel* If you pleſe to ſend home the remender of the monney that I left oppon to honerds of reade Auguſt the 26—1802 I was to have 3 ponds 3 ſhelends and one ſhelend oppon Eche honerd for to ſpend that is £.3 5 0

wich I receved 3 ponde ——— 3 0 0
and ſtel due to me 5 0 5 0
from me W——— C——— of Perranzabuloe
November the 23
ſend it home by the berer If you pleſe A—— B——— 5 ſhelens
to the Coping of Welliulel

* Wheal Jewell, in Gwennap.

AN ANECDOTE.

ON the day the earthquake at Liſbon occurred, in 1755, the king and queen of Portugal were enjoying the amuſement of a bull-fight at Belleni, and from this circumſtance it was that they were ſaved. It was affirmed by many perſons then in Portugal, that the king knew not the extent of this diſaſtrous event. He was told that ſome houſes and churches had fallen; and never having viſited Liſbon afterwards, it may be ſaid, that though within a league of it, he was the only man in Europe who had not a full idea of the dreadful misfortune which had taken place.

A QUESTION, *by G. Coles, of Mr. Whitcombe's Mathematical School, Plymouth-Dock.*

IF a lever, 5 feet long, is fixed at right angles, in a ſcrew whoſe threads are one inch aſunder, and ſo that the lever turns juſt once round in raiſing or depreſſing the ſcrew one inch:

If the lever be urged by a weight or force of 70lb. I demand with what force the ſcrew preſſes.

Alſo a method to ſolve all ſuch queſtions.

Anſwer, by S. L. M. of Newton Buſhel, to J. Tremlet's Charade, inſerted Aug. 9.

YOUR charade I thought on, without much ado,
Will point out a TANNER quite clear to the view.

Anſwer, by J. Channon, of Ottery, to Recluſe's Charade, inſerted October 25.

SPARROW and HAWK, if rightly join'd
'Twill ſhew the bird that you combin'd.

☞ We have received the like anſwer from J. Squance, and Henry Humphreys, of Exeter; W. Mann, of Aſhburton; Walter, of Devonſhire; and J. O. Zillwood, of Dorcheſter.

Anſwer, by Walter, of Devonſhire, to Juvenis's Rebus, inſerted November 1.

YOUR initials join'd aright will name
ÆNEAS, a cheſtain of much fame.

*** We have received the like anſwer from Recluſe, of Awliſcombe; and H. Humphreys, of Exeter.

A CHARADE, *by R. Berry, of South Molton.*

MY firſt as black as ſoot appears,
In every line and page;
My ſecond oft ſounds in the ears
When ſports your minds engage:
Join both parts, and you will ſee
What my uſeful whole will be.

A CHARADE, *by Juvenis, of Dorcheſter.*

IN ſolemn ſtate my firſt will come,
Summoning all men to their doom;
My next affords the labourer reſt,
Returning home with toil oppreſs'd.
When ſtretch'd upon my painful whole,
How dreadful to the ſinning ſoul!
Truſt in the Lord, his mercy crave,
For he alone hath power to ſave.

An ENIGMA, *by William England.*

BEHOLD the ſcene where my dire ſway abounds,
There grief in pallid viſage ſtalks around;
Sorrow and woe diſplay each languid eye,
And from each boſom draw the heart-felt ſigh.
My ſteel-wrought breaſt admits of no reſtraint,
Dead to remorſe, and deaf to every plaint;
I ſcorn the cries of humble innocence,
This gem, with guilt, finds equal recompence.
The humble breaſt whoſe ſweet compaſſion glow'd,
Where honour, love, and true affection flow'd—
My iron hand its nobleſt powers impair,
Blaſts every joy, and for it plants deſpair;
Regards not right, to juſtice gives no claim,
A foe to honour's law, and void of ſhame.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The SEASONS.

A Paraphraſe on Pſalm CXLVII. 7, 8, 9, 14—18.

LET every voice unite to ſpeak his praiſe
Whoſe pow'r directs and rolls the ſeaſons round;
Whoſe truth a ſure ſupport for faith is found;
Whoſe goodneſs with abundance crowns our days.

Jehovah ſpeaks! the rain in torrents pours,
Or falls in gentler ſhowers;
The clouds diſperſe; the glorious orb of day
Sheds his prolific beams at God's command;
The mountains clad with beauteous verdure ſtand;
Herbs, flowers, and fruits their various ſweets diſplay,
Birds, beaſts, and men partake, and bleſs the giver's hand.

The yellow fields with ripen'd plenty ſmile;
With joy the tiller ſees his ſtores increaſe;
He gathers, and ſecures it *his*,
Then finiſh'd harveſt well repays the toil.

When ſummer's fled, when autumn's beauties end,
Stern winter's ſtorms begin:
His ſnows like flakes of wool deſcend,
And cloath the foreſt with a frigid white;
The field, the mead, the bower, no more delight,
Each flower is hid, and blaſted every grain.

His hoar froſt thick as aſhes on the ground
Lies ſcatter'd, glitt'ring all around:
His rigid ice arreſts the river's courſe,
And ſtreams and fountains ſuddenly detains;
Each fluid feels the bending force,
And harden'd to a rock immoveable remains.
Ah! who before his piercing cold can ſtand,
Or brave his northern blaſts, ſwift ſweeping o'er the land.

At his Almighty word the ſouth-winds blow—
Immediately the waters flow:
Their genial warmth, and all the joys of ſpring
Make nature glad, and grateful mortals ſing.

Plymouth. JULIUS.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

The CONTRASTED SCENE.

AS late I homeward bent my way,
The evening air was pure and ſtill;
Bright Sol! proud regent of the day,
Was ſunk behind the weſtern hill.

O what

O what a ſolemn ſilence then
Was o'er the works of nature ſpread;
No noiſe was heard of lab'ring ſwain,
Or flocks along the verdant mead.

The plumy choir were gone to reſt,
Well ſhelter'd in their green retreat;
And now the moon with ſilver veſt
Had nearly reach'd its ſouthern height.

While all around the ſtarry train
Put forth a temporary light;
And as I walk'd along the plain
Gave luſtre to the ſhades of night.

But ah! how ſhort liv'd was the ſcene!
The angry clouds began to riſe;
And ſoon the ſilver-veſted train
Were hid behind the blacken'd ſkies.

And ere I'd haſten'd to my door
The lightnings flew acroſs the plain;
And the loud thunder's awful roar
Was follow'd by a flood of rain.

How glad, 'midſt ſeaſons ſuch as theſe,
Are we to find a ſhelter nigh!
To ſhield our undefended heads
From all the rigours of the ſky.

Then Oh! moſt gracious, mighty God!
If ſcenes like theſe our minds affright,
How ſhall we ſtand when brighter flames
Shall penetrate a darker night!

When far more awful lightnings glare,
And more tremendous thunders roll!
When terrors fill the darken'd air,
And nature ſhakes from pole to pole!

Lord! at that great and awful day,
When theſe alarming ſcenes ariſe,
May we ſecurely ſoar away,
And find a ſhelter in the ſkies!

Malborough. THOMAS JARVIS.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

On the late Francis Baſſet, Eſq. Lieutenant-Colonel of the North Devon Militia, and ſome time Member of Parliament for Barnſtaple.

OF poliſh'd manners, and of ſocial ſoul;
Delight of toilets; gladner o'er the bowl;
Rever'd by ſoldiers; firm in freedom's cauſe;
Support alike of monarch and of laws;
Sincere in friendſhip; bleſs'd with lib'ral mind;
Beneficent of heart, humane, and kind:
Such late was Baſſett!—genuine worth to prove
A pleaſing paſſport to the realms above.

PYLADES.

On SHAME.

NATURE ſtamps ſhame in every heart,
Which ſerves inſtead of grace;
And if you drive it from that part,
It flies into the face.